

REMARKS

Entry of the foregoing and favorable consideration of the subject application, in light of the following remarks, are respectfully requested.

By the foregoing amendment, the title has been amended to conform to the English language translation. Additionally, claims 3, 4, and 7-9 have been amended to delete multiple dependencies. No new matter has been introduced by these changes.

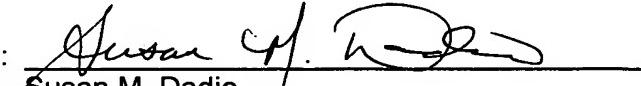
It is requested that the application be examined on the basis of the title, and the claims as amended.

In the event that there are any questions relating to this Preliminary Amendment, or the application in general, it would be appreciated if the Examiner would telephone the undersigned attorney concerning such questions so that prosecution of this application may be expedited.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

Date: January 28, 2005

By: 
Susan M. Dadio
Registration No. 40,373

P.O. Box 1404
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1404
(703) 836-6620